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PREVIEW '95



NO. 3, JULY 1994

An occasional bulletin of the International Women's Tribune Centre to cover plans and preparations for the NGO Forum and UN Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing, September 1995.

FROM FORWARD LOOKING STRATEGIES TO A PLATFORM FOR ACTION

This issue of '95 *Preview* focuses on activities, plans and preparations for 1995 that women are undertaking in the regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Asia, North America and Europe.

The task of reading through all of the material coming from around the world has been a daunting one! There have been times when we have wondered whether there is any need for a bulletin such as *Preview '95*, coming as it does from an International group and not from the places where things are really happening! Women's media groups in every region are producing and disseminating information materials on regional events and activities, and are able to do so in a much more detailed and complete fashion than a group such as IWTC.

Yet, to be able to stand back a little and view all of these happenings from a slight distance is perhaps a valuable thing in the end, because it allows us to see the extent of woman-focussed strategizing and organizing, and to share this with you in a way that will hopefully bring a smile along with a sense of amazement that we are all still so creative and resourceful after all these years! IWTC salutes you all! Aren't we women amazing!

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ALSO, PREVIEW '95 #3 INSERT

containing:
Where to write
What to read

Contacts, sources and a selection of newsletters and journals focusing on issues, plans and preparations for the World Conference and NGO Forum in Beijing, September 1995.

Ordering information for the IWTC '95 Beijing Information Package is in the SPECIAL INSERT in '95 Preview #3. This issue was edited by Anne S. Walker and Vicki J. Semler of IWTC. Artwork is by Anne S. Walker (ASW) and Laurel Douglas (LED). This issue of *Preview '95* was funded by **DANIDA**.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S TRIBUNE CENTRE, 777 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, NEW YORK, NY 10017, USA
TEL: (1-212) 687-8633 FAX: (1-212) 661-2704 e-mail: iwtc@igc.apc.org



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NGO PLANS, REPORTS AND REGISTRATION

Update on NGO Planning Committee

The NGO Forum Planning Committee is moving forward with plans for the '95 Forum in Beijing, building on ideas and recommendations put forward during the March 3-5 1994 NGO consultation and on information gathered during a site visit to Beijing in June. (A report on the March consultation is now available, see box on this page).



A booklet of Consultation Proceedings is now available. It includes:

- Consultation Overview
- Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting
- Overview of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Committee meeting, including: key issues, government positions/resolutions NGO interventions, etc.
- NGO workshop and roundtable lists, summaries, contacts
- Issue-specific Regional Working Group list
- Organizing and planning for NGO Forum '95, Beijing:

To obtain a copy, contact:

Secretariat for the NGO Forum on Women '95
211 East 43rd Street, Suite 1500,
New York, NY 10017, USA
Fax: (1-212) 922-9269,
e-mail: ngoforum95@igc.apc.org

NGO PARTICIPATION IN THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND NGO FORUM '95

NGO Forum on Women '95

Access to NGO Forum on Women '95 is open to all groups and individuals concerned with the status of women. There is no accreditation process. However, those who are intending to participate are asked to register with the NGO Forum '95 Secretariat in New York. There will be a registration fee of US\$50. A registration packet will be sent to everyone on the Forum Secretariat's mailing list beginning August 1994. It is therefore important that you send your name and address to the Secretariat if you want to receive this packet. (Address above)

UN World Conference on Women: To become accredited to participate as an Observer at the World Conference, or at any of the regional or international intergovernmental meetings, NGOs need to fill out application forms. Separate forms are required for regional ministerial meetings, UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings, and the World Conference itself. Forms can be obtained from: UN Fourth World Conference on Women Secretariat, United Nations, DC2-1204, New York, NY 10017. Fax: (212) 963-3463,

UN MAKES PLANS FOR CONFERENCE

PrepCom Reaches Agreement on Draft Platform for Action

The 45-member UN Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the Preparatory Committee (Prep Com) for the Fourth World Conference on Women, met March 7-18 1994 in New York to consider a draft Platform for Action.

Initially, 8 critical areas of concern had been identified but, by the final days of the Prep Com, two more issues had been added. Copies of the draft platform for action can be obtained by writing to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women Secretariat or through e-mail. For those using APC affiliated networks: un.women.doc.eng for documents in English, un.women.doc.fra for documents in French, and un.women.doc.esp for documents in Spanish.

Next steps on the road to Beijing call for review and revision of this draft Platform for Action at each of the five regional ministerial meetings. Because these regional meetings offer opportunities for NGOs to lobby and work with government delegates in the shaping of this major policy document, contact your regional focal point for current plans in your region (see insert for address, e-mail and fax numbers for regional focal points).

1995

CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN



- * The persistent and growing burden of poverty on women.
- * Inequality in access to education, health and related services and means of maximizing the use of women's capacities.
- * Violence against women
- * Effects of armed or other kinds of conflict on women.
- * Inequality in women's access to and participation in the definition of economic structures and policies and the productive process itself.
- * Inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision-making at all levels.
- * Insufficient mechanisms at all levels to promote the advancement of women.
- * Lack of awareness of, and commitment to, internationally and nationally recognized women's human rights.
- * Insufficient use of mass media to promote women's positive contributions to society.
- * Lack of adequate recognition and support for women's contributions to managing natural resources and safeguarding the environment.

IDEAS FOR EXCHANGE



One of the most striking features of the preparatory process for this Fourth UN World Conference on Women is the determination of NGO's to be actively involved in determining and defining the issues of critical concern that are to be part of the UN Platform for Action. Rather than assume that governments are best suited to the task of shaping the draft Platform, NGO's are taking the policy documents to women in their home communities for comment and feedback. An example of how this is happening was the following list that appeared in Interaction's new newsletter entitled "Mobilizing for Beijing". We have adapted the list and made it into a kind of questionnaire you might find useful.

SETTING PRIORITIES: Women's Economic Empowerment

The box below presents a summary of recommendations to governments taken from the two documents that came out of the PrepCom meetings in March, 1994: 1). the UN draft Platform for Action. 2). an NGO draft Platform for Action.

What 4 action recommendations to be carried out by governments are most critical to include in the Platform for Action as a means to promote economic empowerment between the years 1995 and 2000?



Choose from the list below or suggest your own.



Support self-employment and women's control over production by providing access to appropriate technology, credit, marketing and technical assistance and enacting legislation that recognizes and supports alternative credit systems already developed by local NGOs.



Enforce minimum wage and occupational safety measures, enact legislation prohibiting sexual harassment, and adopt and enforce ILO conventions emphasizing women's labour rights and standards.



Guarantee child care for mothers and fathers in the informal and formal sectors.



Guarantee equal pay for work of equal value and family leave.



Choose from the list below or suggest your own (continued)



Introduce training courses in non-traditional areas of work, particularly for girls.



Create mechanisms to compute women's unpaid economic contributions in agriculture, food production and household work to the Gross National Product (GNP).



Call for a review of World Bank and IMF stabilization and structural adjustment policies to ensure that the poorest of society do not bear the greatest burden of economic restructuring.



Redirect defense expenditures towards basic needs.



Enact legislation to remove barriers to economic participation of poor women, particularly as they relate to property rights, asset holding, inheritance laws, credit policies, labour and zoning laws.



Ensure participation of poor women in formulating, implementing and evaluating all social and economic development policies.



Guarantee legal entitlements to women's informal collectives and groups.



Guarantee full employment.



Provide equal access for rural women to productive resources, through ensuring legal equality in access to land, credit and extension.



Call for national and international financial institutions to assess the poverty and gender implications of macro-economic policies and develop gender-sensitive policies, appraisal and approval procedures and monitoring.



Take measures to address the needs of migrant and displaced women workers, particularly to protect their rights as workers.



Enact measures for women and men to balance family and work responsibilities including: flexible administrative regulations, parental leave, part-time work with benefits and child and dependent care.

Adapted from: **Mobilizing for Beijing**, C'tee on the Advancement of Women/INTERACTION, USA. Issue #1, Spring 1994.



AFRICA

African Women List Their Concerns...

The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) organized a regional planning meeting in September 1993 to plan for the NGO Forums in Dakar (1994) and Beijing (1995). Out of this meeting came the following thematic areas and issues for the Africa region:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *ENVIRONMENT *EDUCATION *LAW *ECONOMIC ISSUES *HEALTH *WOMEN AND AIDS *THE GIRL CHILD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *PEACE, DISPLACEMENT, REFUGEES *MEDIA *RESEARCH *AGRICULTURAL/FOOD *PRODUCTION *POPULATION *SOCIAL CULTURAL ISSUES |
|---|--|

Lead NGOs and key individuals representing countries throughout Africa were appointed to working groups in each of these areas, and names/addresses can be obtained from: **FEMNET, P.O. Box 54562, Nairobi, Kenya.**

A caucus of African women at the NGO Consultation in New York, March 1995 added to this list with suggestions for specific paragraphs in the draft Platform for Action. Here are some of those suggestions:

- * **Health.** Resources should be allocated and surveillance established to fill the gaps in health data on Female Genital Mutilation.
- * **Violence Against Women.** Gender-based violence also includes harm which is very frequently justified or condoned on the basis of custom, tradition or religion. Traditional practices should never be used as a basis for violence against women.
- * **Peace and Conflict Resolution.** Steps should be taken to incorporate peace education and teaching about non-violent measures of conflict resolution into school curricula and adult education.
- * **Refugees, Displaced and Migrant Women.** Gender based persecution in times of war should be recognized as a legitimate basis for seeking refuge or asylum. The health, safety, work and educational needs of refugee women and girls, in particular those living in refugee camps, must be recognized and ensured.
- * **Science and Technology.** Governments should evaluate and re-conceptualize concepts of science and technology, recognizing women's role in both formal and informal science and technology and incorporating women's values and technology
- * **Mobilizing Information.** Action by NGOs might include promoting decision-making strategies by women at the grassroots.

AFRICA

...for Inclusion in the Platform for Action

At the meeting of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Conference of Ministers of Economic Development and Planning held in Addis Ababa in May 1993, the thematic outline for the agenda of the Fifth Africa Regional Conference on Women (Dakar, Senegal November 16-23, 1994) was adopted. Major themes to be addressed are:



Women in the Peace Process:

- A. Wars, political conflicts and civil strife in Africa.
- B. Women, a bridge to peace.
- C. Refugee, returnee and displaced women.



Equality, Education and Social Issues.

- A. Women's rights, including legal literacy, violence against women, dissemination of information for and about women.
- B. Gender and Culture, including: socialization process and gender relations: the girl child; cultural and traditional attitudes and practices; education: issues beyond equal access.
- C. Impact of endemic diseases and other health related issues on women.



Women Empowerment:

- A. Women and economic policies in Africa, including: External; debt crisis; structural adjustment programmes (SAPs); regional integration.
- B. Women in the economic spheres in urban and rural areas; access to employment; improving women's management and production capacities in the informal sector; entrepreneurship development; access to training, skills, technologies, factors and means of production and markets.
- C. Political empowerment of women: Women and the democratization process; women in governance, politics and decision-making; national machineries and emerging women's organizations and institutions.



Women, Environment and Sustainable Development:

- A. Women's access to and management of natural resources: Drinking water and sanitation; land tenure and food security; sustainable shelter; energy and forestry; women and disaster



ASW/IWTC

ASIA

Women of Asia Add Their Concerns.....

Major issues raised by the representatives of Asian NGOs who participated in the NGO Consultation in New York, March 1994, included the issues focused on at the NGO Women in Development Symposium held in Manila, November 1993. These were:

Health; Labour rights; Agriculture; Violence against women; Human rights; Political empowerment; Economic empowerment; Science and technology; Indigenous peoples; Family; Environment and; Culture and Education.

Eight other sectors and issues have been since added to this list by the Asia Pacific Women's Action Network-Women on the Move to Beijing, a conglomeration of women activists within regional networks, national organizations, women's centre's institutions and advocacy groups. These are:

Writers; Artists; Youth; Lesbians; Immigrants; Aid; Disabilities; Peace and; Habitat.

Representatives at the regional meeting in New York still felt that major issues had been left out and needed to be added to the list. These include:

Access of low-income women to credit for micro-enterprises; Effects of structural adjustment on women; Women in extreme poverty; Discrimination faced by women based on caste and creed; Allocation of central budgets; Media; Single women (including widows) and women-headed households; Minority groups; Women and AIDS; Women and untouchability; Women in the informal sector; Pornography/Sex Trafficking and Prostitution in general; Women and religion.



NGOs at the Regional Meeting in Jakarta

Around 83 non-governmental organizations attended the Regional Ministerial Meeting in Jakarta and were officially classified as Observers. Their role, however, was not limited to "observing" as they found ingenious ways of making their voices heard. One such way occurred at the opening, when NGO women lined the entrance to the conference hall with sashes wrapped across them naming major issues to be included in the Plan of Action. Delegates shook hands with the women as they entered the hall. Copies of the NGO Plan of Action from the Manila Women in Development Symposium held in November 1993, were waved in the air whenever the NGO plan was mentioned on the floor, and the booklet became a hot item amongst delegates, who begged for copies!

ASIA

....to the Draft Platform for Action

The first of the Regional Ministerial Meetings in preparation for the World Conference in Beijing was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, for the Asia and Pacific region, 7-14 June 1994. Attending the meeting and participating in the deliberations leading up to the drafting of a declaration and a plan of action were representatives from more than 50 countries, including government ministers, senior officials and NGOs.

The first three days took the form of a designated meeting of senior officials on Women in Development, and a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward Looking strategies was conducted. Three major themes dominated the meeting: (1) women in economic development; (2) women in social development; (3) women and empowerment.

Major outcomes of the meeting were the Jakarta Declaration for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific, and a Plan of Action for the region, which lists the following critical areas of concern:

- * The growing feminization of poverty
- * Inequality in women's access to and participation in economic activities
- * Inadequate recognition of women's role and concerns in environment and natural resource management
- * Inequitable access to power and decision-making
- * Violation of women's human rights
- * Inequalities and lack of access to health
- * Inequalities and lack of access to education and literacy
- * Negative portrayal of women in the media
- * Lack of adequate mechanisms for promoting the advancement of women
- * Inadequate recognition of women's role in peace-building.

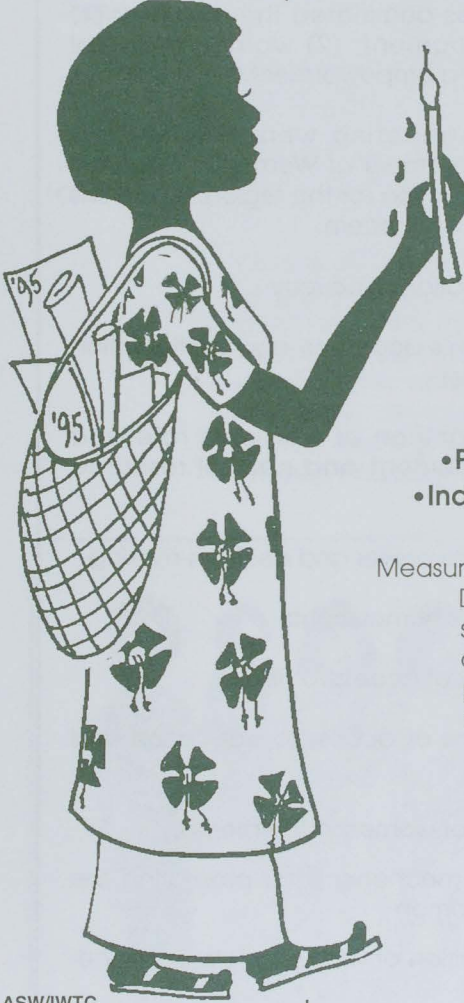


THE PACIFIC

Pacific Women meet in Noumea

A Regional Conference for Pacific Women, organized by the South Pacific Commission, was held in Noumea, New Caledonia in May 1994. Official delegates (government and NGO representatives from each Pacific country) met from the 2-4 May, 1994, and Ministers Responsible for Women's Affairs met from 5-6 May, 1994. Out of the meetings came a Pacific Plan of Action.

The Pacific Platform for Action utilizes national prioritized plans of action, sub-regional caucus reports, the Pacific Women's NGO Draft Programme of Action and the Pacific Overview Paper. The key issues are separated into 13 areas:

- 
- Health
 - Education and Training
 - Economic Empowerment
 - Agriculture and Fishing
 - Legal and Human Rights
 - Shared Decision-Making
 - Environment
 - Culture and the Family
 - Mechanisms to Promote the Advancement of Women
 - Violence
 - Peace and Justice
 - Poverty
 - Indigenous People's Rights.

Measures to address each issue will require:

Data collection on women's organizations across all sectors, including the disaggregation of available data, gender-oriented data in all development planning and the social as well as structural factors that affect women.

Gender sensitization education within families, communities and national institutions for men, women and children.

Affirmative action in selected areas of critical concern.

Adapted from: The Pacific Region Draft Plan of Action, May 1994

ASW/IWTC

THE CARIBBEAN

Heads of Women's Desks Meet

In the Caribbean, heads of Women's Desks and several regional organizations (CARICOM, WAND, CAFRA, UNIFEM, and ECLAC) met in Barbados 5-8 October, 1993 to develop a regional strategy for the Caribbean leading up to the Beijing world meetings.

To ensure that each country was able to take advantage of this preparatory process to move women's issues at the national level, and acknowledging the sometimes limited resources of the Women's Desk to undertake the required actions, a resource person and a researcher were assigned to each country.

The role of this 2-person team is to assist in the establishment of national committees and then to orient the national committee members to their responsibilities during the Beijing preparatory process. In addition, the resource-research team provides technical support to the Women's Desk in the preparations of the national reports.

Among the advantages of this early planning process has been that many of the countries have been able to host preparatory meetings within their own country at the district and provincial level with a view towards establishing national priorities.

Issues generating considerable discussion in formulating the Caribbean plan of action are:

- The human cost of structural adjustment programs (SAPs)
- Women's unwaged work
- Human rights
- Health
- Literacy
- Income generating projects for women

Also emerging as issues were the plight of indigenous peoples and the role of the dependent territories in the Caribbean.



ASW/IWTC

LATIN AMERICA

Women Develop Comprehensive Media Strategy

Women's groups and networks in the Latin America and Caribbean region are organizing NGO activities at each of the sub-regional meetings (see following page for a breakdown of the sub-regions). Some activities revolve around the development of sub-regional plans of action so that NGOs can lobby their governments in the development of government plans and programmes. Other activities are directed towards the Regional Plan of Action that will emerge from the Argentina meeting, and yet others are aimed at the Platform for Action itself.

Activities also revolve around preparations for the regional NGO Forum that will take place in Mar del Plata, Argentina in September. (For addresses and dates, see Preview '95 #3 Insert). Virginia Vargas (Peru) and Ana Falu (Argentina), the two regional representatives on the NGO Forum Facilitating Committee, have been keeping women in the region in touch with plans and preparations on a regular basis, with letters and news of events both in print and on-line.

Major communication tools being used by Virginia and Ana, along with other women's groups and individuals in the region include the bi-monthly newsletter *Hacia Beijing* produced collaboratively by Isis International (Santiago) and Fempress, and the electronic conferences set up by Alai-Area Mujeres and the Network Support Programme of APC (Association for Progressive Communications) and several of its member groups who have access to computers and are linked in to e-mail.

At a communications meeting in Ecuador earlier this year, it was decided that e-mail would be used extensively to keep everyone in touch with plans. Knowing however, that many women would not have access to e-mail, national media focal points were set up to receive the information via e-mail, and then send it on through other more appropriate methods (e.g. radio, newsletters, newspapers, TV, etc.) to women in their countries.

Latin America Electronic Conferences

The electronic conferences to look for on both APC and non-APC-affiliated networks such as Alternex, Chasque, EcuaneX, Nicarao, Cries, Wamani, etc. are :

1. **muj.beij95** (Isis International conference around NGO Forum and World Conference plans)
2. **mujer.cmm** (for general information on World Conference and NGO Forum).
3. **cmm.ong.doc** (for NGO documents)
4. **mujer.com** (communication strategies and plans)
5. **amlat.mujeres** (for exchange of information amongst organizations and women's movement in the region)
6. **dh.mujer** (women's human rights information).

For more information, contact:

Sally Burch, APC Women's Outreach Co-ordinator,
ALAI-Area Mujeres, Casilla 17-12-566, Quito, Ecuador.
Tel: (59-3) 252-8716. Fax: (59-3) 250-5073. e-mail: mujeres@alai.ecx.ec



LED/IWTC

LATIN AMERICA

On the Road to Mar del Plata

The Sixth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean will be held Mar del Plata, Argentina from 26 - 30 September, 1994.

Several sub-regional preparatory meetings are planned before then, most of them to be held around July 1994. The objective of these meetings will be to develop the outline for the programme of action for Latin America and the Caribbean. The sub-regions are:

- 1) The Andes: (Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela)
- 2) The Southern Cone: (Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile and Argentina)
- 3) Brazil.
- 4) Central America: (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama)
- 5) Mexico.
- 6) The Caribbean: (The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is organizing two meetings).

Major themes for the region are as follows:

- **Democratization**, citizenship and political participation of women.
- **The politics of structural adjustment pro-grammes**, neo-liberal economics and their effects on the lives of women, including poverty, processes of impoverishment and social exclusion.
- **Violence against women:**
 - i. Violence in general
 - ii. Increase in social/domestic violence against women (urban and rural).
 - iii. Effect of armed conflicts on women.



ASW/IWTC

N. AMERICA & EUROPE

NGOs Organize and Strategize

Throughout North America and Europe, activities and events related to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the NGO Forum are underway. A selection of these events include:

- **Nordic Forum**, Turku, Finland, August 1-6, 1994.

(Tel: (63) 832-2112. Fax: (63) 832-2263)

- **Social Security and Social Protection: Equality of Treatment between Men and Women**, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland.

(In New York): Tel: (1-212) 963-1742. Fax: (1-212) 933-4556

- **NGO Forum at ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting**,

NGO Forum Planning Committee, Vienna, Austria

ECE/NGO Working Group, Switzerland: Fax: (41-22) 917-0181

For North America: Fax: (1-416) 971-8084. (Toronto)

- **Committee on Equality Between Women and Men: "Equality and Democracy"** Council of Europe.

(In New York): Tel: (1-212) 963-1262. Fax: (1-212) 963-4556



- **Global Human Security: International Development Conference.**

Washington, DC, USA.

Tel: (1-202) 638-3111.

Fax: (1-202) 638-1374

- **UNESCO Seminar on "Women and the Media"**, UNESCO.

(In New York):

Tel: (1-212) 963-1262.,

Fax:: (1-212) 963-4556

N. AMERICA & EUROPE

Women's Issues Become the Focus

In Europe, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Regional Ministerial Meeting (for Europe and North America) will be convened at the Vienna International Centre in Austria, October 17-21, 1994. Emphasis will be on the role of women in the economy. The seven networks of the European Commission (e.g. Local Employment Initiatives, Child Care, Women in the Labour Market, Women in Decision-Making, Training Projects for Women) have each produced a report dealing specifically with women's roles and issues.

The Nordic Forum to be held in Turku, Finland, August 1-6, 1994 is planned as part of the Nordic countries preparations for the UN World Conference. Each country has appointed a national planning committee. There will be cultural events, seminars, workshops, sports and outdoor activities. The entire spectrum of human life, from the victims of violence and incest to leadership and success stories will be covered.

In the USA, the Women's Bureau, US Department of Labor and the US Department of State will jointly convene 10 official preparatory meetings to bring American women together to identify what has worked and what is needed for the advancement of the majority of women. The meetings will take place between April 22 and November 18, 1994. Each

meeting will include workshops on topics related to the Platform for Action, such as: Women in leadership positions; knowing and exercising your legal rights; overcoming poverty among women; women and entrepreneurship; education and training of women and girls; women and employment; women's health; violence against women; women and peace; and women and the environment.

In Canada, a permanent Beijing Coordinating Committee (BCC) has been formed, with six members elected by national women's organizations, one member elected from each of six regions (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia, and North), and 3-5 additional members to ensure that the diversity of women in Canada is fairly represented. The major role of BCC is to co-ordinate the input of women in Canada through a broad consultation process and to develop a policy document through which women will be able to identify their priority issues.



ASW/IWTC

WESTERN ASIA MAJOR ISSUES AND THEMES

The Permanent Office of the General Arab Women's Federation met in Amman, Jordan from March 22-24, 1994. The objective of the meeting was for representatives of Arab women's organizations to discuss preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women and NGO Forum, Beijing 1995.

Plans were outlined for an "Amman NGO Forum '94" to be held in Amman, the capital of Jordan, during the period from 3-5 November, 1994, prior to the UN Regional Ministerial Meeting for Western Asia to be held 6-10 November, 1994.

The Amman Forum '94 will be a valuable opportunity for women of the Arab region to meet and exchange ideas, experiences and interests, out of which will come recommendations to Arab governments.

Workshops to be undertaken at the Amman NGO Forum '94, include:

- Raising women's awareness of legislation and legal matters.
- The Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Women's Health and Family Planning
- Women's Participation in Decision-Making
- Education and Literacy for Women.
- Women and Environmental Protection
- Women and Information Media
- Women as Heads of Families
- Rural Women
- Women and International Conflicts

There will also be discussion on a Plan of Action for Women in the region, and on actions to take place at and following the World Conference on Women and NGO Forum on Women, '95. For further information on all preparations for 1994 and 1995 in W. Asia, please contact:

Dr. Fatima Sbaity Kassem,
Chief, Women and Development Unit,
OIC, Social Development Division, ESCWA,
Amman, JORDAN.

or

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PLEASE NOTE: A directory of national focal points for 1995 and a women and development conference calendar (1994-1996) are also available from IWTC. Both of these publications are part of the package mailed to the IWTC constituency, and are available for ordering by others.